



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION III
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107-4431

154845

FEB - 4 1993

SUBJECT: Administrative Order On Consent for the Old Salem Tannery Site

FROM: Thomas C. Voltaggio, Director *Thomas C. Voltaggio*
Hazardous Waste Management Division (3HW00)

AND: Marcia E. Mulkey, Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel (3RC00)

TO: Stanley L. Laskowski
Acting Regional Administrator (3RA00)

Attached for your review and signature please find an Administrative Order on Consent for Removal Action, Docket No. III-94-005-DC ("Order") to be issued under Sections 106(a) and 122 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(a) and 9622, for the Old Salem Tannery Site ("Site") located in Salem, Virginia. The Order has been agreed to by Hercules, Incorporated and Yokohama Tire Corporation. We recommend that you sign the Order.

The Site, which occupies sixteen acres of land, is located on the 700 block of West Main Street, Salem, Roanoke County, Virginia. The property was utilized as a tannery from 1891 to 1973, in the business of preparing leathers. In 1973, the property was purchased and used for salvage operations which consisted of the reclamation of lead from the breakdown and splitting of batteries. The Site is bisected by tracks of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, and is adjacent to the Roanoke River to the south. The property is situated in a mixed residential and commercial area. Located on the Site are two original buildings, as well as several in- and above-ground vats. Several unlined lagoons, in which tannery wastes were dumped also exist on-site.

On July 6, 1992, it was determined, in accordance with Section 300.415 of the National Oil and Hazardous Substance Pollution Contingency Plan, that a threat to the public health or welfare or the environment existed at the Site due to the release or threat of release of hazardous substances at the Site.

On November 24, 1992, EPA issued a Unilateral Order to the Site owner, Sterling Minter. Mr. Minter partially complied with the Order but notified EPA that he was financially unable to continue. On January 10, 1994 EPA activated Superfund monies to remove drums and containers that were still present on-site and

AR100490

that posed a threat to public health and the environment.

The continuing Potentially Responsible Party Search, revealed other parties that have been identified as potentially liable for lead contamination at the Site. This Order is being issued to those new parties, Hercules and Yokohama, and they are responsible for conducting lead removal activities at the Site. Pursuant to the Order, the Respondents will be required to identify and segregate the lead contamination at the Site and then remove and dispose of the contamination.

All legal requirements for issuance of this Order under CERCLA Section 106(a), 42 U.S.C. § 9606(a), have been met.

Please contact OSC Robert E. Guarni of my staff at extension 6686 or Wayne Walters, Senior Assistant Regional Counsel, at extension 1833 with any questions concerning this matter.

Attachment

AR100491